

IN THE CLAIMS - (CLEAN COPY)

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 22, 25, 31-33, 40-42, and 45-47, as follows.

1. (Amended) A system for transmitting data in a data stream to grouped recipients, comprising:

a server, for receiving users' requests for transmission of user requested data in a data flow for reception by said users;

said server for transmission of at least one data stream, and responsive to said users' requests for arranging said users in at least one group of recipients of a respective data stream of the at least one data stream, with each user being arranged in a respective group of the at least one group, and wherein each respective group for receiving said user requested data in said respective data stream corresponding to a point of transmission of said data flow; and

said server, responsive to the arrangement of said users in said at least one group, for transmitting said user requested data in said respective data stream to each said respective group.

2. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein, said server realigns a respective user with said respective data stream to change the relative position of said respective user to the data being transmitted in said respective data stream, responsive to a signal from said respective user.

22. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein,

said server includes means for disconnecting a respective user with said respective data stream at an identifiable location in said respective data stream and for reconnecting said user to another data stream of the at least one data stream.

25. (Amended) A system comprising:

a server for transmitting user requested data in a data flow for reception by a plurality of users requesting said data at substantially the same time;

said server having means for connecting said server to a telecommunications network for the transmission of data; and

23
said server including means for responding to user requests for data, said user requests being received from said telecommunications network, and for identifying the individual requesters as the source of respective user requests for data and arranging said individual requesters in respective groups for receiving said user requested data in a data stream, and wherein said respective groups arranging said individual requesters for reception of said user requested data in said respective data stream corresponding to a point of transmission of said data flow by time of request or by number of requests, for transmission of the same user requested data in said respective data stream to the respective users in respective groups, and distributing the user load on said server and shifting said user load toward a steady state load on the server by distributing said respective groups over the transmission of said data flow by time of data stream transmission or by place in said data flow transmission.

24
31. (Amended) The system of Claim 25, wherein said server includes means for shifting said respective individual requesters between said groups to change the time of reception of said user requested data relative to said data stream transmission.

32. (Amended) The system of Claim 25, wherein,

said user requested data is accessed from a data store communicatively coupled to the server; and

said server includes means for changing the location in the data store accessed for shifting the location of the user requested data relative to said data flow transmission.

33. (Amended) A method comprising the steps of:

receiving, at a server having a data store, user requests for transmission of user requested data in a data flow for reception by a plurality of users across a telecommunications medium;

responsive to said user requests, arranging said plurality of users in at least one group of recipients of said user requested data in said data flow with each user of the plurality of users being arranged in a respective group of said at least one group, and wherein each respective group for receiving said user requested data in a respective data stream corresponding to a point of transmission of said data flow; and

responsive to said user requests, sending said user requested data in a respective data stream from the data store of the server to the telecommunications medium, wherein each said respective data stream being destined for reception by said respective group of recipients.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 37, wherein, said data is transmitted with identifiable locations in said data stream, and the method further comprising the steps of:

identifying a respective identifiable location in said data stream corresponding to said user signal; and

moving said user to another of said groups receiving said data stream from a location in said data stream related to said respective identifiable location.

41. (Amended) In a system for transmitting data in a data stream sent from a server to a plurality of users requesting access to said data stream at substantially the same time, a method comprising the steps of,

a plurality of users receiving user requested data in a data flow by receiving at least one data stream sent from a server;

arranging said plurality of users into groups, comprising a first group and a second group, each of said groups for reception of a respective data stream transmitted from the server, each respective data stream corresponding to reception of user requested data at a point of transmission of said data flow; and

responding, at the server, to a request from one of the plurality of users that is in said first group by moving the one of the plurality of users from said first group to said second group for reception, by said one of the plurality of users, of user requested data at a point of said data flow relatively displaced in space or time from reception by said first group.

42. (Amended) The method of Claim 41, wherein,

said step of arranging includes the step of realigning a user of the plurality of users with said data stream to change the relative position of said user at a different point of said data stream, responsive to a signal from said respective user.

45. (Amended) A computer program product for use in the operation of a computer transmitting data in a data stream to users requesting said data, the computer program product including computer instructions comprising instructions for:

connecting a telecommunications medium with said computer for sending said data in said data flow for reception by said users;

arranging said users in groups with each said user being arranged in a respective group, responsive to a request made by said user, and wherein each said respective group corresponding to reception by said user of user requested data in a data stream at a point in said data flow; and

146 sending said data flow in a plurality of data streams from a data store for reception of user requested data at a plurality of points of said data flow by said groups of said users.

46. (Amended) A computer program product for use in operating a computer system, the computer program product including computer instructions comprising instructions for:

transmitting user requested data in a data flow sent in at least one data stream from a server to a plurality of users across a telecommunications network;

arranging said plurality of users into groups according to reception of requests from said plurality of users for said user requested data, each of said groups corresponding to reception of user requested data in a data stream at a point in said data flow; and

responding to a request from one of the plurality of users by moving the one of the plurality of users from a first group to a second group for reception, by said one of the plurality of users, of user requested data at a point of said data flow relatively displaced in space or time from reception by said first group.

47. (Amended) A computer program product for use in operating a computer, the computer program product including computer instructions comprising instructions for:

receiving requests for data from users, said data being organized for transmission in a data flow from a data store;

arranging said users in groups, wherein each of said groups corresponding to reception of user requested data in a data stream at a point of said data flow; and

responsive to said users' requests, sending said user requested data in at least one data stream from said data store to said groups with said groups receiving separate respective portions of said data relatively displaced in space or time.